



WITH FARMERS IN WASHINGTON



Gray Silver is the Washington Representative of the American Farm Bureau Federation. His office is in the Munsey Building, Washington, and he watches what is going on at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue. It was Gray Silver who organized the Agricultural Bloc in Congress and thereby got passed and signed more bills that the farmers were asking for than were ever passed by any Congress since the gavel first fell in the old capitol in Philadelphia.

Gray Silver is a farmer, and lives at Martinsburg, W. Va., where his apple orchards are famous. He was born in 1871 at White Hall, Va. He owns and operates orchards and general farms in the Shenandoah Valley, and also in Illinois and Arkansas. He breeds Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep, and ships carloads of cattle, wool, apples, rice, wheat and corn. Mr. Silver is president of a federal farm loan association, director in a farmers' mutual fire insurance company, and director in a farmers' mutual telephone company. For two terms he was a state senator in West Virginia.

When the American Farm Bureau Federation was organized, Gray Silver was picked out to represent the new farmers' movement in Washington. He has made good, too—because both Republicans and Democrats are his friends and because he champions the cause of our farmers and does not admit partisan prejudice to interfere.

DEAN DONOVAN ENTERTAINS SENIORS

(From Eastern Progress)

On the night of May 15, Dean Donovan and Mrs. Donovan entertained the class of '22. About sixty were present, including a few who were not seniors. The evening was enjoyed by

WHY I JOINED THE FARM BUREAU

"I joined the Farm Bureau because I wanted to keep my girl out of the cornfield and give her the education she should have. My father made some money in farming but he made it at the expense of working himself fifteen hours a day and his wife and children longer hours than they should have had. It wasn't that he was greedy; it was just that farming was then so hazardous financially that he had no other recourse. The Farm Bureau in our county is eliminating the unnecessary risks from the business of farming and is putting it on the plane where efficiency and service, rather than drudgery and long hours, pay just returns. My farm bureau membership has come back into my pocket in added returns every year since I have belonged, and it will do the same thing for every other farmer who makes good use of it.

"I cite these benefits first not because I fail to see the other ideals of the Farm Bureau, but because agriculture must first be put on a just basis of prosperity if other ideals are to be attained."

PRESIDENT HARDING'S SPEECH at the National Agricultural Conference

Conference gave some good reasons why the Farm Bureau is needed by the farmers today. In comparing agriculture with other business, he said: "The farmer who owns his farm is a capitalist, executive and laborer all in one. As capitalist he wants the smaller return on his investment. As executive he is little paid; and as laborer he is greatly underpaid in comparison to labor in other occupations."

President Harding also asserted that a study of the co-operative movement shows, "that the farmer is as good a business man as any other when he has his chance; that he is capable of organization, co-operation and co-ordination; that he will apply sound methods to his business whenever he has the chance; that his credit can be better established, his particular needs of capital on terms suited to his requirements can be met; that, these things accomplished, he ceases to be an underpaid laborer, an unpaid executive, and a capitalist with an unremunerative investment."

all present. Games were played including a "mental test" given to the seniors by Dean Donovan. About ten-thirty, delightful refreshments were served.

Mrs. Donovan was assisted in entertaining by three juniors, namely, Misses Thelma Champion, Fern Store and Bess Owens.

"Well-dressed on a Moderate Income"

Unusual lecture-demonstration by

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Miss Hansen approaches her subject from the various viewpoints of beauty, utility and economy.

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Many people feel about the Farm Bureau as they do about church; that it is a splendid thing for the community; they would be sorry if it should fail. They hope that somebody else will see that it keeps going—keep it around handy. Maybe if it gets to be a real good thing they will want to join sometime. Shucks!

Making Presidents of Farmers

A great many of the men whose names are so familiar in Farm Bureau affairs now were not known twenty-five miles away from their own farms three years ago. Their fame went no farther than a reputation for good citizenship in their own locality.

They quit plowing one day to attend a meeting and got put on a committee. The farmer, who does his committee work well, finds that the next time he is made chairman of a more important committee. In gratitude for his services his neighbors may elect him to office in the County Farm Bureau. Holding this office he stands a good chance of becoming a member of the executive committee of the State Farm Bureau.

It's only one more step to a state office, and the farmer who was shucking corn on his own 160 in absolute obscurity just a while ago finds himself attending a live stock marketing conference or a convention to which farmers like himself have come clear across the United States to attend. He makes new contacts and becomes a national figure. Perhaps he is called to Washington and goes to see the President at the White House. All the while he is developing wisdom, if he has wise stuff in him, and an ability to speak the minds and hearts of his neighbors. He accepts responsibility and responsibility makes him great.

There is not a leader in the American Farm Bureau Federation or any of the State Farm Bureau Federations who has not risen by just such a path. This democratic way of choosing leaders from the ranks is one of the keynotes of the success of the Farm Bureau. It is the reason why all the Farm Bureau work has been practical and why its accomplishments have exactly covered the vital needs of the real farmers.

And there is inspiration in working for an organization where there is every chance to perform every service your talents can master. There is no lid on at the top. Hay-pitching farmers are the kind of stuff of which Farm Bureau leaders are made. The member of the township fruit marketing committee may be sanely guiding the State Farm Bureau Federation tomorrow. His only limits are within himself.

You Don't Sow Oats in January

If the farmer did not take advantage of opportunities by putting his crops into the ground he would not be a farmer—long. There is one time to sow oats. Unless the farmer knows when that time is and takes advantage of it when it comes there will be no oats raised that season.

The accomplishments of the Farm Bureau speak for themselves. The Farm Bureau is offering an opportunity to belong to an organization that will help you. The Farm Bureau is the farmer's opportunity. It is as important to him as the one Nature offers at planting time.

The Farm Bureau gives farmers expert advice and opinions on their problems from men who have the problems of millions of other farmers at heart. Your membership in the Farm Bureau gives value received for your money. It is a 100 per cent investment.

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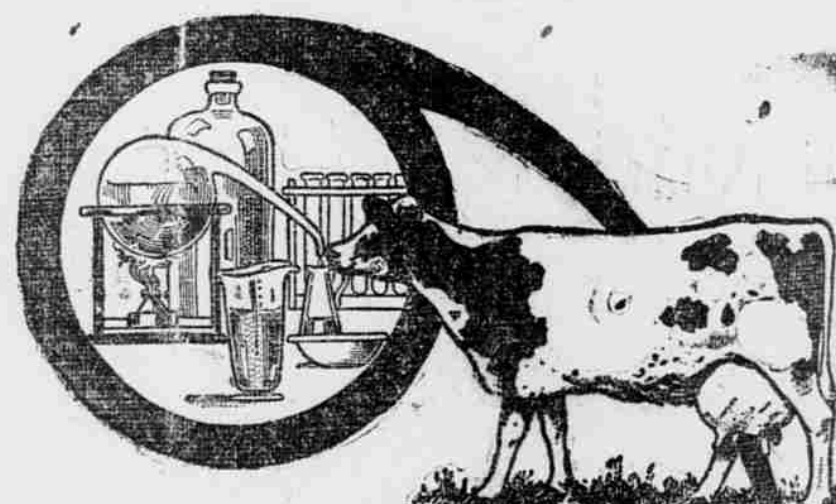
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